THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8
MOFUSSIL.....13-4

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 20TH MARCH.

NOW THAT the cost of high education is under investigation a friend has forwarded the following statement regarding the Dacca College.

Official Year.	No. on Rolls.	Average monthly Roll No.	Expenditure. From State Funds.	Expenditure. From fees & dues.	Expenditure. Total.	Cost per annum of each student. From State Funds.	Cost per annum of each student. From fees.	Cost per annum of each student. Total.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1877-78	129	122	22662	9396	32058	226½	94	320½
1880-81	257	172	19287	13331	32618	112-2-2	77-8-1	189-10-3
1881-82	272	228	18260	17689	35949	80-1-4	77-9-4	157-10-8

Our friend writes:

These figures speak for themselves. The College has done wonderfully towards helping itself. It has a larger staff, larger than that of any Mofussil College, and yet its cost to Government is lower than that of any Government College. There is no College which can shew so lower amount as Rs. 80 to be the annual cost of each student to the Government. The expenditure and large staff have been amply justified by the steady rise in the results from a literary point of view, year by year. This year especially, the College stood very high. It has more students than any College but the Presidency.

We entirely concur. We should add that the Dacca College has not a pice of endowment. It is remarkable that the Newabs of Dacca, who have been so liberal in other matters, have altogether lost sight of the Dacca College. It is dark beneath the lamp!

THE CZAR of Russia has given his consent to convert seventeen imperial palaces into institutions of learning. Well done.

IT IS rumoured that Sir Salar Jung, the Regent of the Nizam's territory, contemplates the formation of a Council to assist him in the Government of the State. The Regent is so much overwhelmed with work that he has not time to attend to many matters of details. A Council will be a relief to him.

WE TAKE the following from a Madras contemporary:

In the Court of the 2nd Class Magistrate of the Kulittalai Taluq, Trichinopoly District, one Mari was charged, under Section 182 of the I. P. C. with giving false information to a public servant, with intent to induce that officer to exercise his lawful authority to the injury of another. The accused petitioned the Head Assistant Magistrate against the conduct of the Munsif and Curnam of Perur, accusing them of having collected Rs. 5 more than the assessment due on his lands, and of having extorted half an anna on the rupee as fees. This was forwarded to the Tahsildar of Musiri, who made a departmental enquiry in to the matter and reported the result to the Head Assistant Magistrate, expressing his opinion that the allegation mentioned in the petition was false. The Head Assistant Magistrate being of the same opinion, ordered the prosecution of the petitioner under Section 182 I. P. C. The case was referred to the Kulittalai Taluq Magistrate for disposal, who after examining some of the witnesses, acquitted the accused under Section 211 C. P. C. on the ground that, as the officer who held the preliminary departmental enquiry failed to examine one of the witnesses mentioned in the petition, the Head Assistant Magistrate could not have legally granted sanction for the prosecution, and therefore no proceedings could be taken against the accused. The High Court, on revision, remarked that, no further proceeding were necessary to be taken. That although all the witnesses for the defendent in support of his complaint were not examined, some part of the original complaint was found to be true, and in respect of such part redress was granted. The Court also observed that exactions by village officers were common occurrences and it was not desirable to repress complaints which, though hard to prove, are frequently well-founded.

We hope the judgment of the High Court will have due effect upon the subordinate officers.

WE OBSERVE an unfortunate erratum in our issue of the 20th instant. In the address to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress adopted at the meeting at the Chamber of Commerce held on the 16th instant the sentence, "During the recurring seasons of distress which afflict this country, Your Majesty has *searched* the hearts of your people," &c., should of course read, "Your Majesty has *reached* the hearts of your people."

THE LONDON GAZETTE contains a notice that the Irish Militia will not be called out for training this year. This means that the Government has not confidence in the Irish at the present time.

MR. MULLHALL of the Statistical Society of London estimates the amount earned by commerce, manufactures, mining, agriculture, carrying and banking in Europe in 1880 at £7,683,000,000, showing an increase for Great Britan of £337,000,000, against £,218,000,000 for the rest of Europe.

IT IS STATED that the result of recent geological explorations made in Russia by official direction show the existence in that empire of phosphate deposits sufficiently extensive to supply the wants of Europe for an indefinite period.

TUESDAY, 21ST MARCH.

A CONTEMPORARY says that the average rent of land per acre in Ireland is Rs. 7 per annum. This would make the rental of the island the round sum of Rs. 14,39,42,400, while the whisky bill of the nation amounts to 17,27,88,775, the amount of rum over rent is Rs. 2,88,46,375. In Bengal the average rent is hardly one rupee per biga. The tribute to rum was in times past almost unknown in Bengal, but thanks to the outstill system it is gradually swelling.

A VALUABLE invention in connection with Railway carriages is to be introduced into India. A refrigerating carriage will be attached to trains, and the current of cold air kept up in it will be communicated to the passenger vehicles by means of tubes.

A HILL railway from Rawal Pindi to Murree, extending over 37 miles, is to be constructed by private capital. Forty shareholders have been enrolled and one thousand shares taken up. The capital required is estimated at five lakhs. The Himalyan Railway has set a good example.

A COMMISSION has been appointed by Germany to make observations of the transit of Venus which is to take place next December. The Commission consists of eight members, six of whom were on the Commission of 1874. They think it advisable to put each expedition under the charge of a good astronomer, and leave to him the choice of his colleagues and the responsibility for the success of his expedition. In this way it is hoped that some of the failings that interfered with the success of the observations on the occasion of the last transit will be remedied.

THE OPIUM trade between Persia and China, we learn from the *Pioneer*, is assuming large proportions. From August 1880 to May 1881, the total number of chests shipped from Persia to China was 4,121, while the total from August 1881 to January 1882 was 6,321. Will the wiseacres of the Anti-Opium Society include Persia in their programme? The British bayonet has not yet given England power over Persia.

ISINGLASS IS an article of great commercial value. A superior kind is exported in large quantities from Russia into England and other countries. It is there obtained from the swimming bladder or sound of fishes chiefly of the sturgeon tribe. An inferior kind is extracted in Bengal from a fish named Polynemus sele of Buchanan (Sulea or Suli). This fish is common in the Ganges, and is often found weighing 20 to 24lbs, and it is also said to be abundant in the Krishna and Godaveri. Why do not some of our capitalists take to this industry?

THE BOMBAY Municipal Corporation has voted an address to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress expressive of profound thankfulness for the merciful preservation of her life from the recent attack of an assassin.

THE PARSEES of Bombay, through Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, the head of the community, telegraphed their congratulations to the Prince of Wales, and have received a reply from His Royal Highness.

THE HINDUS and Mahomedans of Bombay have held largely attended thanksgiving services; and another grand thanksgiving for Hindus has been fixed for Sunday next.

THE RAJPUTANA RAILWAY is not to be sold to the company represented by the Rothschilds, the negotiations with whom have fallen through; but it will probably be leased to the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, and worked entirely by them. Has Government management proved unsuccessful?

THE SALE of the railways of British Burmah to a London syndicate the representative of which—Mr. Moir—has recently passed through Bombay is almost concluded. Why a State Railway is to be sold? We do not understand the policy of Government in this matter.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND MARCH.

IT IS STATED that the Government of Bombay propose to amalgamate the Customs Department with the Collectorate of Bombay. This will effect an annual saving of Rs. 30,000.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE thus writes of Sir Ashley Eden:

The Viceroy, in the course of his speech on the Budget, very handsomely acknowledged the services which Sir Ashley Eden has rendered to the Government and the people during a long and distinguished career in India. His Excellency expressed the regret which he felt, and which he thought would be generally shared, that in a few months His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal would no longer be amongst us. It is unquestionable that Sir Ashley Eden has shown himself to be in many respects a capable and energetic administrator. He has also given evidence that he is entirely free from a failing which has detracted from the merits of other capable and energetic administrators, namely, that of making amends for the vigour and determination shown in dealing with subordinates by being plastic as wax in the hands of superiors. The present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has on divers occasions given utterance with the most perfect frankness to opinions diametrically opposed to those entertained by the Government of India. He has resisted measures and combated views which were cherished by men more powerful than himself, and by his agility and force of character he held his own where other men would have weakly given way almost as a matter of course.

But our contemporary is indignant because Sir Ashley Eden snubbed Mr. O'Donnell.

THE FOLLOWING interpellations regarding India took place in the House of Commons on the 13th ultimo:

Sir H. Wolf asked the Secretary of State for India whether any communications had taken place with the Papal See for arranging the terms on which the Pope intends to create additional vicars apostolic or other prelates of the Roman Catholic Church in India, and for treating the question as to whether such prelates, though exercising their functions in Her Majesty's dominion, were to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Goa; whether such communications with the Papal See had taken place at the instance of the Viceroy of India; and, whether any correspondence had taken place with the Viceroy respecting the appointment of such additional prelates; and whether such correspondence could be laid upon the table.—The Marquis of Hartington: No communication whatever has taken place upon the subject. With regard to the latter part of the first branch of the question, that has been a subject of controversy of very long standing indeed. In 1880 the Government of Bombay made some proposals, one of which was to the effect that it would be well if Her Majesty's Government could in some way procure the consideration by the Holy See of the dissatisfaction amongst those poor congregations who have, amid so many temptations remained faithful to their religion. The Government of India did not support that recommendation, and the views expressed by the Secretary of State in Council were to the effect that the Indian Government should not interfere with the internal arrangements of the Church of Rome beyond discharging the necessary duties of preserving peace and preventing civil wrong. If the hon. member desires to move for correspondence on the subject there will be no objection. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. A. Arnold asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether he would lay upon the table of the House the draft of a Convention with Persia, approved by Her Majesty's late Government, to which reference was made in the letter from the Government of India, signed by Lord Lytton and dated Jan. 7, 1880, in the following terms:—"Whereby Persia will be provisionally permitted to occupy Herat under sufficient guarantees for her good administration of it, and for her adequate protection of British and Indian interests at the point, and with a special reservation of our right to occupy the place with British forces in certain eventualities."—Sir C. Dilke: No, sir; it is not convenient or usual to lay upon the table documents of the kind referred to in the question of the hon. member.

Mr. Stanhope asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, before the conclusion of the treaty between Russia and Persia, any proposal was made by Her Majesty's Government as to representative of this country being present at the proceedings which were taken for the delimitation of the new Russian frontier.

Sir C. Dilke: No such proposal as that referred to by my hon. friend was made by Her Majesty's Government, but

communications are passing with regard to another portion of the frontier. I may take this opportunity of saying that we have been informed by Her Majesty's Minister in Persia that the proposed Russian frontier line terminates at a point distant 150 miles (and not, as stated in various papers, only eleven miles) from Sarakhs. (Hear, hear.)

A MEETING for the purpose of establishing an Anti-Aggression League was held in London on February 22nd, Mr. John Morley being the chairman. The object of the League is to increase the control of Parliament over the executive in international and colonial transactions; to bring together all accessible information respecting our dealings with civilised nations; the doings of our officials in India, the colonies, and at foreign stations, for the purpose of quickly drawing attention to unauthorized proceedings which threaten to commit the country without its knowleage or consent. We hope this Society will place itself in communication with the public Associations of India.

MICHAEL DAVITT, whose address was given as Portland Prison, has been returned without opposition for Meath, in succession to Mr. A. M. Sullivan, Mr. Patrick Egan, the treasurer of the Land League, who had accepted the nomination, having retired in Davitt's favour. Davitt was the founder of the Land League. But the election has been quashed as a prisoner cannot sit in Parliament.

A REMARKABLE letter has been addressed to the Czar by the Metropolitan of Moscow, in which his Majesty is urged to quit his retirement, and to live less secluded from his subjects. His present retirement is denounced as "poltroonery."

THURSDAY, 23RD MARCH.

AN ASSAM CORRESPONDENT gives the following particulars of work and diet for coolies on tea plantations:

A coolie is required to work on 30 hulls or 6 cottahs of land a day, in hoeing and cleaning. This work is exacted from him whatever time it may take him, and he is sometimes obliged to work till dusk or nightfall. If it be night the poor fellow is kept in the custody of his Sirdar to complete his *Hazree* or day's work. At the end of every week he is allowed six seers of rice, but this rice is given in factory weight, and it includes the basket, no allowance being made for tare. He should be thankful if he gets five seers net. During sickness a coolie is supplied with rice, if there is hope of recovery, when his case becomes hopeless his supply is stopped. The poor men are obliged to crawl to their work to secure this supply and many though reduced to mere skeletons are obliged to work. If a coolie is absent one day for sickness he loses rest for two Sundays, if for two days, all the Sundays for the month. The Deputy Commissioner comes in his circuit on inspection duty, signs the papers presented to him, takes his morning and evening meals with the manager, and goes away without seeing the coolies or enquiring into their circumstances. Under the present system when the three years agreement of emigrants expires, they are induced to enter into a fresh agreement under the temptation of a bonus which varies from 12 to 24 rupees, according to the period of extension and one rupee increase of wages. To an active and smart fellow, an increase of two rupees is given. By legalising the five years contract the poor coolies are deprived of these advantages.

A SALT MERCHANT has sent us a lengthy communication on the effects of the reduction of the Salt duty. We give a few extracts from it. The writer begins:

Now, the question is has the reduction previously made benefited the poor people of this country or the European merchants who are the importers of Liverpool-salt. As for Bengal, I can make bold to say that the reduction of duty has proved more beneficial to the importers of Liverpool salt than to consumers in this country.

Our correspondent then goes on:

The labouring people are the most miserable class in this country, but they are not likely to derive any benefit from the reduction of the duty. A day labourer, who earns three annas a day spends one pice on salt, and he will still have to spend one pice on it, even though the market may fall to the extent of the duty reduced, and why? Because the petty shopkeeper will not give more salt for one pice than what they give at the present rates, for, in consideration of the fall of price, the allowance for one pice would be such a small quantity of salt as not to exceed a few pinches which our petty shopkeepers never care for, specially in such matters which are not for their own benefit. Moreover, the labourers are generally the debtors of such shopkeepers for the necessaries of life such as paddy, pulse, salt, &c., they therefore cannot afford to haggle with their creditors for a trifling increase in salt.

WE HAVE received from our correspondent, *Graduate Teacher*, a long letter on the Budget. As the writer simply discusses, though with great intelligence, the points which we have already noticed, we see no advantage in giving his letter.

WE UNDERSTAND that Mr. Patrick McGuire intends publishing a series of biographical sketches of eminent native gentlemen of Bengal for which he is collecting materials. The same writer proposes to publish twenty-five sketches entitled "A few Days, Hours and Minutes." The work will be illustrated, printed, and published in London.

WE ARE requested to mention that a newspaper Reading Club and Library is projected at Allahabad, for which aid is solicited from the general public.

THE MEMBERS of the Subordinate Judicial Service seem to be very disconsolate at being left in the cold by the Finance Minister. One of them thus writes to us: "Even now a Munsiff cannot get into the grade of Rs. 400 before 25 years' service, a Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate gets Rs. 400 after seven or eight years' service." We believe something will be done for the Subordinate Judicial Service.

WE HEAR from our Gossain Durgapore correspondent that a question of official etiquette much disturbs the minds of the good people of Kushtea. Mr. Anderson, the Civilian sub-divisional officer of Kushtea, holds municipal meetings in the Court-room, himself sitting on a chair on the platform of the ejlash, and the Commissioners are made to take their seats on benches reserved for muktears and pleaders and amla, and his demeanour is that of a *Huzur* commanding a rabble present in the Court-house. This has very much annoyed the Commissioners, who talk of resigning. Our correspondent adds that Mr. Anderson's attitude towards the native public and subordinate officers is rather overbearing. He has no *furshut* to see a munsiff or Deputy Magistrate waiting upon him to pay his respects. The *salam* of Sub-Deputy Collectors or Munsiffs, and Police Inspectors is seldom noticed; neither is the same courtesy shewn to any of the public.

FRIDAY, 24TH MARCH

WE ACKNOWLEDGE elsewhere the receipt of a copy of Babu Sreenath Chund's "Readings from Indian History" in Bengali. The subjects are well chosen and the essays treating of them will afford instructive reading to young learners.

THERE WERE 223 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 18th March, of which 30 were from cholera, one from small-pox, 16 from bowel-complaints, 2 from accidents, 10 from pthisis and asthma, 11 from convulsions, 19 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Thirteen children were still-born, 51 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year; 32 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatic Christians the deaths were 9. The average of daily mortality was 31·8

A CORRESPONDENT requests us to mention that Pundit Atmaram Sarasvati, a disciple of Swami Dyanund Sarasvati, is now at Bilaspore in the Central Provinces where he lately delivered a lecture on what the people of this country should do to rise in the scale of nations.

A CORRESPONDENT requests us to mention the following facts connected with the endowment of the Rajshye College:

Some years ago Raja Hara Nath Roy Bahadur of Dubalhati by a deed of gift made over to Government a property yielding an annual income of Rs 6000 exclusive of all charges for raising the Beauleah Government school to the *status* of a high school or middle-class college. Thereupon the said school was affiliated to the Calcutta University up to the First Arts standard. This state of things continued for sometime after which a movement was set on foot for raising this high school or middle-class college to the B. A. standard of the University. In this movement almost all the Zemindars and landholders of the district came forward with open purse, and paid as much as they possibly could. Raja Promotho Nath paid greater portion of the money required for the purpose raising the institution to the status of a College *i. e.* getting the 3rd and 4th Year Classes affiliated to the University.

Thus you will see that Raja Hara Nath Roy Bahadur of Dubalhati took the initiative in encouraging high education in Rajshye. The people are grateful to him as well as to the Raja of Dighaputia and other noblemen and gentlemen, who have made donations in furthering the cause of high education in Rajshye. Both the Rajas of Dubalhati and Dighapatia are public spirited Zemindars, their purses are always open to mitigate the sufferings and ameliorate the condition of their poorer fellow subjects.

WE HAVE received several letters regarding the rumoured successor to Dr. Chundra in the Calcutta Medical College, one of which we give below:

It is reported that the appointment about to become vacant in the Medical College by the retirement of Dr. Chundra is to be given to a European gentleman. This appointment has been held for so many years by natives, that it can not be just to deprive them of it. Surely such men as Doctors Chukerbutty and Chundra have given the Government every satisfaction, and are there not others among Native medical men fit to take their place?

THE COUNCIL of foreign bondholders have sent Sir George Kellner, K.C.M.G., to Costa Rica to investigate the financial position of that Republic, and the state of its railways, complete and incomplete.

IN CONNECTION with the question of education and employment for the children of Europeans and Eurasians in India, the Government of India called upon local Governments to report how far a system of competition might be applied to the admission of clerkships in Government offices. The Punjab Government reports that the European and Eurasian classes have already a fair share of such clerkships in that province; and the Lieutenant-Governor considers that there is no necessity for introducing a system of open competition for such appointments, which would in all probability operate to the disadvantage of Europeans and Eurasians educated in this country, and under which they would not secure so large a share of the loaves and fishes as at present. So fair field and no favour is *not* the motto of our Government when Europeans and Eurasians are concerned.

SATURDAY, 25TH MARCH.

THE CHINGLEPUT case of Madras has ended in the conviction of the defendant, and his sentence to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment. The Assessors acquitted him, but the Judge convicted him, and made some strong remarks on the evidence given. We hope there will be an appeal.

A MEMBER of the P. W. D. writes to the Lahore paper, complaining that General Crofton has been permitted to leave India for good without a word of thanks from the Government, though he designed and constructed two of the greatest public works in the country,—the Baree Doab and Sirhind Canals; while General Fraser has received thanks for having built a lighthouse 20 years ago, and for *not* looking after the ancient monuments of India.

A COMPANY has been formed at Palermo with the object of constructing a railway to the summit of Mount Etna, in imitation of the Visuvius Railway. They should apply for the services of Mr. Prestage, the author of the Himalyan Railway.

WE HAVE received a copy of the last annual report of the Northbrook Indian Club. We are glad to observe that the Club is fairly progressing.

WE TAKE from the last number of the Journal of the National Indian Association the following items of Indian intelligence:

In the Mathematical Tripos Examination at the University of Cambridge Mr. Devendra Nath Das (Clare College) was classed 36 (among the Senior Optimes) and Mr. S. Satthianadhan (Corpus Christi College) was bracketed 66 (among the Junior Optimes). Mr. Satthianadhan's success in the Moral Science Tripos we have before mentioned.

Mr. Jehanjir Dubash has passed in the Examination for the double qualification of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Mr. M. de Quadros has passed the L. F. P. and S. of Glasgow Examination.

Mr. Soloman A. Druckar has passed the First Examination for L. S. A.

We are glad to hear that the Secretary of State for India in Council has made a grant of Sanskrit books to Pandit Shyamaji Krishnavarma, of Balliol College, in consideration of the great assistance the selected candidates for the Indian civil service resident at the University of Oxford have derived from his instruction.

We are also glad to hear that Pandit Shyamaji during his stay with Mr. Stephen Gladstone at Hawarden had the honour of being introduced to the Primer Minister and Mrs. Gladstone, and that the Premier in the course of a long conversation asked him many questions and expressed himself deeply interested in the well-being of the natives of India.

At the last Examination of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, Mr. A. C. Sen obtained full marks for Chemistry and stood first in his class in Physics (298 out of 3000 marks). In Agriculture also he and Mr. S. Hosein were first in the class.

WE ARE glad to observe that the long contemplated industrial school at Bankipore is about to be realized. The *Behar Herald* says that the funds at the disposal of the School Committee are as follows:

Prince of Wales, Reception Fund	...	Rs. 89,000
Syed Lotf Ali Khan's donation	...	,, 100,000
Northbrook Memorial Fund	...	,, 13,000
		Total Rs. 202,000

This sum has been, it appears, invested in 4 per cents, and the annual income is Rs. 8080, or Rs 673 odd annas per mensem. The promised Government grant is rupees 250 per month and thus the total monthly income will be Rs. 923. It is proposed to keep one lac and a half as a permanent fund for the maintenance of the school and to spend the balance in the purchase of machinery and the construction of a school building. We hope no time will be lost in establishing the school.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, March 19.—The *Times'* special correspondent at St. Petersburg states that General Skobeleff has been appointed President of the Commission to reorganize the administration of Turkestan on a civil basis. General Ichernauw is posted in Taskend.

20.—The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh are visiting Pembroke, where they have launched the ironclad *Edinburg*. A shed in the Albert Duck, Liverpool, has been burnt down. The fire is ascribed to Fenians, designing to plunder the Volunteer armoury in the vicinity. The latest advices from Natal report serious disturbances on the south-west border of the Transvaal.

20.—The Parliamentary Easter Recess begins on the 4th and ends on the 17th April. The House of Commons has resumed the debate upon the cloture. Fresh cases of shooting and maiming are daily occuring in Ireland. The

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transport *Serapis* sailed for Bombay to-day. The *Malabar* has passed the Canal outward bound.

21.—Mr. Gladstone last night anounced that the Budget would be submitted after the Easter Recess. The debate on the Cloture was resumed last night. Lord Hartington spoke strongly in support of it, and said it was a necessary measure for the efficient conduct of the buisness of the House. His Lordship announced that it would be considered a cabinet question. The House agreed to an adjournment of the debate.

22.—A Royal message was read in both Houses of Parliament last night, asking for a provision for Prince Leopold. The debate on the matter is fixed for Thursday. Mr. Labouchere has given notice that he will oppose any grant. Mr. Arnold has introduced a motion urging the assimilation of the borough and county franchise in the United Kingdom. Mr. Gladstone supported the motion. An attempt has been made to destroy the building of the detective department in Dublin by explosions. The building was, however, but slightly damaged and no one was injured.

23.—Advice from the Transaval state that the disturbances on the south-west border continue, and that fighting has been going on for some days, the Boers having been defeated three times by the Natives.

24.—Lord Hartington replying to a question in the House of Commons, said a successor to Sir Erskine Perry would be appointed shortly. The House of Commons by 407 against 42 votes agreed to a motion granting Prince Leopold an additional ten thousand pounds per annum. The members who voted against the motion were Redicals and extreme Home rulers. Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Fawcett abstained from voting. The House of Lords on the second reading threw out without division Lord Redesdales Bill requiring Members of Parliament to declare their belief in God. Colonel Burnaby has crossed the English Channel in the Balloon "Eclipse" which has been sighted at Boulogne.

Tunis March 10.—Agitation is increasing in the Southern portion of Tunis. An expedition is being prepared to proceed thither.

21.—Repeated affrays are taking place here between the French and Italians.

Barlin March 13.—The National Zeittung announces that Prince Bismark, in course of a conversation, said that he was devoting all his energies to secure the maintenance of peace.

22.—The Emperor William's birth-day was celebrated with much enthusiasm.

23.—The Czar has telegraphed the warmest birthday greetings to the Emperor Williams.

COL. OLCOTT, the celebrated Theosophist, has arrived in Calcutta. He proposes to deliver in this city a series of lectures on Theosophy. We give him a hearty welcome.

WE HAVE received too late for insertion in this issue the address presented by the people of Jonye to Mr. Beames, the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, and his reply thereto.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Suggestions regarding Forest Administration in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. By D. Brandis F.R.S. C.I.E. 2. Annual Report of the Police Administration of Assam for 1880. 3. Review of the External Land Trade of British India for 1880-81, by J. E. O'Conor Esq. 4. Annual Report of the Northbrook Indian Club, London, for 1881. 5. Calender for Mail Steamer departure from Bombay and Collection of Time Tables, &c., published by the Post Office, for 1882. 6. The Stationery Trades' Journal, London, Vol. III. No. 24. 7. New Zealand Insurance Company's Card Almanac for 1882. 8. The Paper Consumers' Circular No. 173, March 1882. 9. The First Annual Report of the Saidapet Literary Society, Madras, 1882. 10. Readings from Indian History in Bengali, compiled by Srinath Chund, Second Edition. 11. Bharut Luckshmi—a poem in Bengali, Part I, by Rojoninath Chatterjee. 12. Kulpuna—a Bengali monthly, Nos. 5 and 6. 13. Mahomedan Dyatutwa or law of inheritance, by Prosunno Coomar Sen. 14. Arya Durpun—an Urdu and Hindi Journal. 15. Journal of the National Indian Association, No. 135, March 1882.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

(SESSION 1882.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 30th Inst., at 7½ P. M.
Subject: Lenses.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 31st Inst., at 7½ P. M.
Subject: Laws of Expansion by Heat.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Saturday, the 1st April at 3 P. M.
Subject: Hydrogen.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH, 27, 1882.

MR. WHITLEY STOKES.

WHEN, in the spring of 1877, Mr. Whitley Stokes was appointed Legal Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council in succession to Sir Arthur Hobhouse, the appointment came upon the public as a profound surprise. We did not approve of this arrangement or regard it as satisfactory. We thought that the successor of Macaulay, Bethune, Peacock, Maine, Stephen and Hobhouse should be, in the esteem of the Indian public, a man of mark. Mr. Whitley Stokes, it is well known, was regarded by his contemporaries as an unusually lucky man when he was first appointed Secretary to the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations. His previous career at the Bar had hardly prepared the public to anticipate for him so great an elevation. The Clerk to the Legislative Council such Mr. Stokes really was, (though he was euphemiously designated Secretary to the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations) was, in course of time, changed into a full-blown Secretary to the Government of India. We do not deny that Mr. Stokes had proved an efficient and useful clerk or Secretary; but that did not justify his unlooked-for elevation to a seat in the Viceroy's Executive Council. In order to make a useful and successful Legislative Member one must be something more than a mere lawyer, and must be possessed of broad views and statesman-like instincts. Even the best friends of Mr. Whitley Stokes could not say that he was anything more than a closet scholar—a pedantic theorist. We venture to assert that no other Viceroy than Lord Lytton, who was never a good judge of men, would have selected Mr. Stokes for an office associated with the names of very distinguished men. It is generally believed that the late Viceroy under the seductive influence of Sir Henry Maine committed the blunder of hoisting Mr. Stokes up into the Supreme Council of India. The public did not approve of the selection, even though Mr. Stokes have had Indian experience of the special duties of the post to justify it.

The new Legal Member began his career by attempting to perpetrate a gross departmental job. He intended to appoint Mr. Molesworth Macpherson, a young and inexperienced Barrister, to the coveted post of Secretaryship to the Government of India in the Legislative Department. A timely and merciless exposure of his intentions by the Press, however, prevented their being carried out. Lord Lytton interfered and forbade the contemplated appointment of Mr. Macpherson to the Secretaryship in the Legislative Department. It is needless to say that this attempt at the perpetration of a scandalous job greatly lowered Mr. Whitely Stokes in the estimation of the public and strengthened their conviction that his appointment to the Legal Membership was a blunder. The complaints respecting his elevation, though deep and loud, would, however, have been silenced if the new Law Member had devoted himself to his work without fanaticism, if he had remained satisfied with putting into proper shape the legislation India really wanted and refrained from evolving new laws from his inner consciousness, without the slightest regard to the requirements of the country. An eminent living statesman says:—"A great deal of trouble, of expense and of misery would be saved to mankind if legislators could be induced to consider more narrowly not only what they are legislating about, but for whom they are legislating, and what good society is likely to derive from their work." If Mr. Whitley Stokes had during his tenure of the Legal Membership carefully borne this truth in mind and acted upon it, he would have conferred a real benefit on the country, and the Indian public would have appreciated his labours. The principle which guided Sir Arthur Hobhouse in making laws was that as every change necessarily involved some unsettlement none ought to be made. But Mr. Whitley Stokes has throughout his career as Legal Member of Council of India, acted upon a diametrically opposite principle.

Shortly after taking charge of the Legislative Department Mr. Whitley Stokes sketched a programme of his work as Legal Member and laid it before the public. In a remarkable speech delivered at the Legislative Council he dilated on the advantages of codification and indicated the measures which would occupy his attention during his tenure of the office of Law Member. He argued that codification would facilitate the despatch of business, cheapen the cost of litigation,

and, in some places, enable the Government to diminish the number of Judges; that a well-framed code would be a great help to the untrained Judges of India and would prevent Barrister Judges from introducing into India English technicalities and doctrines unknown to native litigants and unsuited to the country; that the process of codification would afford an opportunity for settling, by legislative enactment, many disputed points which the courts would be unable to settle and it would be "the safest and earliest method of introducing into Native society such reforms as are urgently needed but which the people were not enlightened enough to understand and demand. Then codification would do away with the system of law reporting carried on at a considerable expense, as there would be no room for judge-made law. These were the advantages which the new Legal Member claimed for codification. In fact, he wanted the public to believe that if he were allowed to codify the laws of India, this country would be converted into a terrestrial paradise. The new Legal Member announced that he would first finish the Law of Contract by taking up sales of immoveable property, Mortgages; Leases; Settlement &c. He would next deal with the law of Personal Relations, namely Husband and wife, Parent and Child, Guardian and Ward, Master and Apprentice, Master and Servant. Then it would be necessary to reduce the law of property into a complete code, and for this purpose the subjects of Shipping, Corporate Property, Patents, Copyright, and Trade-marks must also be taken up. This was a very grand and ambitious programme, and if the retiring Legal Member had been able to carry it out fully, the mischief would have been incalculable. When our countrymen saw that Mr. Whitley Stokes looked upon codification "the safest and earliest method of introducing reforms into native society," their minds were naturally filled with distrust and alarm.

A late learned and witty English Judge used to say that he had only two objections to the codification of the law. The first was that no one was able to do it, and the next was that there were a great many people, who believed themselves able to do it. But for these two objections we would have heartily applauded Mr. Whitley Stokes' scheme of codification. If he had remained satisfied with codifying the *law we have got*, we would have been the first to reckon him as one of our great benefactors. But when he proceeded on to introduce, under the garb of codification, laws which he thought we *ought to have*, we could not but protest against his manipulation. Happily for the country, the Legal member's measures did not receive the cordial support and approval of the late Viceroy. With the famine in Southern India and the war in Afghanistan on their hands Lord Lytton and his Councillors had little leisure left them to indulge in the luxury of scientific law-making. Mr. Whitley Stokes did as much as he could to carry out his pet Bills through the Legislative Council. Then the Law Commission of 1879 put a drag upon his operations. But for the appointment of the Commission, the six Bills which were referred to it for consideration, would all have found a place on the Statute-book long ago. We do not deny that the codes framed by Mr. Whitley Stokes gave evidence of much laborious study, great intellectual sagacity, and unflagging industry. But nevertheless they were not in accordance with the thoughts, sentiments, wishes and wants of the people for whom they were intended. Indeed, some of their provisions were entirely opposed to the feelings of our countrymen. It cannot be too carefully borne in mind by the legislator that the law he makes should be suited to the circumstances of the country, and the habits, traditions and feelings of its people; otherwise it would be a misfortune. We do not agree with those who think that the British Government should fall back upon the patriarchal system, which has been so largely abandoned in most parts of India from time to time. We have always been, as these columns testify, warm admirers of a reign of law; and we have always held that in a country like India where the vast majority of our judicial officers are men who have had no special training it is most desirable to have written and settled law. But at the same time we have been strongly of opinion

that many of Mr. Whitley Stokes' codification measures were not demanded by the requirements of the country. No less an authority than Sir James Stephen has pointed out in emphatic terms that the elaborate and complex Transfer of Property Bill was not wanted, except the chapter on Mortgages and probably that on Leases. There was also no necessity for many of the provisions of the Easements Bills, as the people of India are content with simpler rights in this matter than the advanced nations of Europe. They are in general absolutely destitute of ideas on many of the subjects, which have been dealt with in Mr. Whitley Stokes' Easements Bill.

Some of the highest authorities have declared that frequent changes of law cannot be too strongly deprecated in a country like India. Our countrymen, it is notorious, look upon all innovations with suspicion and distrust. Better experience has taught them that every change is not necessarily an improvement. The great secret of governing an Asiatic people is to let well alone as far as possible. The Indian Legislative Department should not make any advance until the clearest necessity has been demonstrated and the fullest discussion has been gone through. This is all the more necessary as the people for whom the department makes laws are hardly represented in the Legislative Council. During Mr. Whitley Stokes' tenure of the Legal Membership this truth received but too little attention. It is all very well to say that the initiative in matters of legislation is not taken by the Legislative Department; but it is nothing to the people who sets the law-making machine in motion. All the great codes were absolutely the Law Member's own, though, of course, he had, in accordance with official routine, to obtain the sanction of the Secretary of State to their introduction. During Mr. Whitley Stokes' tenure of the Legal Membership changes of law became so frequent as to perplex and bewilder the public and make them long for rest. Nineteen Acts were passed by the Legislative Council in 1877, of which no less than 8 were amending Acts. In 1878 eighteen Acts found a place on the Statute-book, of which as many as eleven were amending Acts. The number of Acts carried through the Legislative Council during 1879 was twenty-one, of which nine were amending Acts. In 1880 sixteen Acts were passed, of which six were amending Acts. This sort of tinkering is neither creditable to the Legislative Department nor agreeable to the people. If the Department should make laws after the fullest possible discussion has been excited, it would not be necessary to change them so often. "Make no haste but good speed" is a saying the wisdom of which the retiring Law Member did not realize.

We have remarked above that if Mr. Whitley Stokes had devoted himself to his work without fanaticism and, if he had like his thoughtful and cautious predecessor remained satisfied with putting into proper shape the legislation India really wanted, he would have been a useful member of Council and the public would have appreciated his labours. But he was an ambitious man and as such most anxious to leave his mark on the Indian Statute-book. In his anxiety to have his name connected with some important measures he did not care to consider whether these measures were really necessary and whether they were suited to the circumstances of the country and the feelings, habits and traditions of the people for whom they were intended. In drafting his Bills he forgot that laws are not made for lawyers; that they are not made merely to preserve symmetry and consistency in every part of the judicial edifice; that laws are to be approved or condemned simply and solely according to the degree in which they promote or impede the interests of the whole of the community for which they are designed. Throughout his career as the head of the Indian Legislative Department he was a devout and enthusiastic worshipper of symmetry. His measures were so complex and intricate that they were the dread of the untrained judiciary of the country; and what is worse they were unsympathetic and destructive of the land-marks of Native Society, for whose benefit they were designed.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THE UNITED PROVINCES.

I.

IT is superfluous to say that we are watching with deep interest the action that may be taken by the various Local Governments and administrations in order to carry out the policy laid down in the Government of India's Resolution dated 30th September last. We have from the beginning held that everything will depend upon the manner in which the provincial authorities may give effect to the views of the Supreme Government. We have discussed in these columns the measures adopted by Sir Ashley Eden for extending local self-government in his satrapy, and we now proceed to notice the action which Sir George Couper proposes to take in that direction. The Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh has recently issued two resolutions on the important question of extending local self-government. Nothing could be more disappointing than these documents, and we fail to see why it was thought necessary to spend, rather waste, public money in issuing them. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal holds that effect cannot be given to the views of the Supreme Government in the direction of extending local self-government without making considerable alterations in the existing law, so as to render possible the appointment of district and local committees on some entirely new and better principle. But Sir George Couper entertains a contrary opinion. He has proceeded on different lines from those laid down by Sir Ashley Eden. The Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces thinks that no alteration in the existing law is necessary to carry out the policy prescribed by the Supreme Government for municipal government. The constitution of the present district committees is to be slightly modified within the limits of the existing law; and this will satisfy Sir George Couper that he has done everything possible to give the policy of the Supreme Government as to the extension of local self-government a fair trial in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. It seems to us that if it had been possible to oppose the new policy Sir George Couper would have with alacrity taken to this congenial task, for he mournfully remarks that the policy "has passed beyond the region of discussion"; and that what remains to be done is to arrange for its application to the 49 districts and 109 municipalities of the United Provinces. This is the spirit in which Sir George Couper has come forward to give effect to the views of the Supreme Government in the direction of extending local self-government.

The two resolutions issued by the Government of the North-Western Provinces deal with the constitution of district and municipal committees. The constitution of district committees in the United Provinces is now regulated by Acts III. and IV. of 1878. These committees consist of official and non-official members. "The time has not yet come (even were it expedient on other grounds)," observes the Lieutenant-Governor "to entrust to a committee, composed entirely of non-official members, the serious responsibilities involved." The District Magistrate will, of course, continue to be the president of the committee. "It would be impossible under present circumstances," says Sir George Couper plainly, "to constitute any committee of the kind in question, save under the presidency of the district officer." The official members of the existing committee are eight in number. Under the new constitution a few official members are to be cut off and a few others added on. The Deputy Inspector of Schools and the District Superintendent of Police will be removed from the *ex-officio* list; but the Lieutenant-Governor "is strongly of opinion that all Tahsildars in a district (except those who are merely officiating temporarily) should be *ex-officio* members of the committees. The local knowledge and experience of these officers will be most valuable in enabling the committee to understand and decide upon many of the matters coming before it, while their official position will give them a direct interest in the proceedings; and their influence and advice will be specially valuable to non-official members resident within their circle." Yes we can easily understand that a Tahsildar will be very useful in *sumjaoing* the non-official members resident within their circle, who may exhibit the least tendency to be independent. Assuming the average number of permanent Tahsildars in a district to be five the number of official members, under the new constitution, will be eleven, instead of eight as at present. The law requires that the non-official members shall constitute at least one-half of the total number on the board; and Sir George Couper is pleased to think that this proportion is "reasonable." Now comes the question as to how the non-official members should be selected. The resolution says:—"The almost unanimous verdict of those consulted is in favour of the system of nomination by the district officer (who is obviously the best judge of fitness), approval of the Commissioner, and confirmation by Government. The people are certainly not yet ready in these Provinces for the introduction of any system of election. Native gentlemen prefer to pose as the nominees of Government rather than to appeal to the votes of a constituency; and apart altogether from the difficulties as to franchise, it is a matter of notoriety that the people do not yet desire, and will not yet take any interest in, the election of representatives. Even in municipalities, where election has been to some extent introduced, and where the circumstances are more favourable for the growth of such a system than they can be in a district, the reports recently received (and communicated to the Government of India) point clearly to the conclusion that the times are not ripe for the success of the elective system." We are not surprised to hear that the almost unanimous verdict of those consulted by the Lieutenant-Governor should be in favour of the system of nomination. As the *Pioneer* pertinently remarks:—"Of course, the almost unanimous verdict of those who are likely to be consulted by a local Government would be against not merely the idea of election, but against the idea started by the Government of India in the October circular altogether." But Sir George Couper knows very well that the system of nomination has been in operation for a long time, and that the local bodies constituted under it have been shams rather than realities. The Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces professes his strong desire "to secure a thoroughly representative board." But the proposed constitution of the district committees is a striking commentary on this desire. One-half of the total number of members will be official, the president of the committee will be the district officer, and the non-official members will be selected by the President. Thus the people of the United Provinces will have local self-government *in excelsis*. As regards municipal committees, they will remain constituted as at present. After considering fully whether any alteration in the existing constitution of municipal committees is necessary for the proper carrying out of the new policy of extending local self-government, the Lieutenant-Governor has come to the conclusion that no change is called for. It appears to Sir George Couper that the present system which has now been in operation for nearly nine years, has fully justified the hopeful anticipation formed of it, and that it has on the whole worked extremely well. This being so, His Honor is of opinion that the exchange of financial liability and the transfer to these committees of the additional control of institutions to be made over do not of themselves necessitate any change in the existing constitution of the committees or any amendment of the chapter of Act XV of 1873 which deal with their appointment, duties and powers; and in this even no alterations will be introduced for the present." Sir George Couper must be a very sanguine man when he hopes that even without altering the present constitution of the municipal committees "really representative and reliable Boards will be got together, the members of which will be prepared to sacrifice themselves to some extent for the public weal, and to lend all the assistance of which they are capable to the official members who are more directly responsible to Government." The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has announced his intention to relieve all municipalities in Bengal with the exception of Calcutta, the Su-

burbs and Howrah, of the cost of the police force; but the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces does not go even so far as that. "The real object," we are told, "is to make over to municipalities institutions and works of a kind suitable for local control and likely to enlist local energy. It is in this view that the Government porposes to make over to municipalities the control administrative and financial— of the educational and medical institutions within their limits; taking upon itself, in lieu thereof, *a proportionate share of police expenditure.*" The italics are ours. In Bengal the municipalites have been relieved of police charges amounting to 4½ lakhs of rupees per annum; while the maintenance of the medical and educational institutions the control of which has been made over to them will cost them annually something like a lakh. The relief granted to the municipalities in Bengal thus comes up to 3½ lakhs per annum; whereas in the United Provinces no relief whatever is to be given. The Local Government will only bear a share of the police expenditure proportionate to the cost of the maintainance of the educational and medical institutions, which will be transferred to the municipalities. In this way does Sir George Couper propose to give effect to the orders of the Supreme Government for relieving municipalities of the cost of the police force!

Well does the *Pioneer* remark that "the new arrangement prescribed in the North-West does not advance local self-government one infinitessimal fraction. It is simply an attempt to shuffle the cards a little leaving the regular officials of the district in possession of ample powers for controlling the proceedings of the committees dealt with." The district and municipal committees will consist, as at present, of *upka waste* members, and continue to register the decrees of the local executive officers. If the object the Government of India, had in view in devising the policy prescribed in the Financial Department Resolution of 30th September last was to get the people of India into the way of administering their affairs for themselves, it must be admitted that the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces has done nothing towards attaining that object. The committees as altered will be the same *jo hookum* shams as now in existence. Nothing is said in the Resolutions under notice about expanding the powers of the committee. This cannot be done without altering the existing law, and Sir George Couper does not seem disposed to recommend any resort to legislation. It may be that further Resolutions may be issued by the North-West Secretariat for giving effect to the views of the Government of India in the direction of extending local self-government; but we feel bound to say that for all practical purposes what has been so far might not have been done at all. Where was the necessity of spending a certain number of sheets of paper in issuing resolutions for simply telling us that the constitution of district and local committees will remain virtually unaltered? The result so far achieved is no respouse whatever to the decentralization circular issued by the Government of India in October last, and it remains to be seen what steps Lord Ripon and Major Evelyn Baring will take to make Sir George Couper carry out the great idea started in that circular.

II.

THE North-West Secretariat has published another instalment of its orders for giving effect to the views of the Government of India in the direction of extending local self-government. The present orders define the responsibility and authority of both district and municipal committees in regard to the Educational Department. The District Education Committees now in existence in the North-Western Provinces possess complete administrative control over the primary schools and partial control over middle-class Vernacular schools, that is to say, institutions located at the head-quarters of the Tahsildar. In Oudh there are no district educational committees, every school in the Province having hitherto been left in the hands of the Department of Public Instruction. It is now announced that every Government school in every district of the United Provinces, shall now be made over to the administrative and financial charge of local committees, tuitional matters alone being reserved for the decision of Department of Public Instruction. The only exceptions to this general rule will be (a) schools which will now come under the control of municipal committees; (b) normal schools, only one of which is allowed to each division, (c) schools directly attached to colleges and carried on in the same building, as at Agra and Benares; and (d) special schools, such as the Sanskrit school at Ajudhia. The control of the Government schools, which are situated within the limits of municipal towns, will rest with the municipal committees concerned. With this exception all Government schools situated within the district limits are under certain conditions placed under the administrative and financial control of the district committee. The schools to be handed over to local management constitute the bulk of the educational institutions of the provinces. "It will be no easy task," observes the Lieutenant-Governor, "to superintend and control these schools, scattered all over the country, many of them in remote tracts. But this is the task that will devolve on committees, and His Honor looks to them and to the district officers who will preside for a careful and zealous discharge of their duties. Sir George Couper does not wish to hamper the action of committees by laying down minute, rules of guidance in this matter: he must leave to each committee the decision of the method to be adopted. But he would suggest that, for the purposes of budget and report, the services of a selected member of the covenanted district staff be put in requisition, as is at present done in the North-Western Provinces, and the assistance of all members who take a special interest in education be enlisted on some uniform principle so as to secure constant supervision and check all over the district." Under the system lately in force a Joint or Assistant Magistrate used to act as Secretary to the District Educational Committee; and he was in point of fact the Committee. The same arrangement will be continued under the "New Departure." The covenanted officer whose services will be put in requisition for the purposes of budget and report will practically rule the district committee in educational matters, and there will be no real local self-government.

The functions of the district committee in regard to the Government schools placed under their administrative and financial control, will extend subject to review of Government, to the appointment, promotion, transfer, leave, punishment, and dismissal of teachers drawing less than Rs. 30 per mensem, and to a general authority over all other teachers; to the location of schools and the building and repair of school-houses, it being understood that no school above the middle vernacular status shall be abolished or created without the sanction of the Director of Public Instruction and that the provisions of the Public Works Code are complied with as to buildings; to the preparation of budget-estimates in the prescribed form; to the scrutiny and counter-signature of all bills and accounts; to the preparation of annual reports; and to the general control of the schools in question in regard to all matters affecting their proper administration and financial well-being. The cost of the Government schools thus handed over to local management is about ten lakhs of rupees per annum. Besides Government schools, aided schools are placed under supervision of the committees, who will make recommendations as to grants, scrutinize and countersign bills, and arrange for thorough and periodical visitation. The sanctioned amount for grants-in-aid in the United Provinces is about two lakhs of rupees. The committee will not have the power of making grants. Their functions will be limited to recommendations for the continuance or withdrawal of existing aid or for the admission of new schools to the privileges of the system. The district inspecting staff (Deputy and Sub-Deputy Inspectors) is placed entirely at the disposal of the district committees, in order to aid them in their educational work. These officers will, under the new system, be the subordinates of the district committees and subject to their control; but all questions relating to their appointment, transfer, promotion, leave, and punishment will for the present originate with the Director of Public Instruction. The Director must, however, consult the district committees in every point and on every occasion, and should any differences of opinion arise between him and the committees the Government will decide. The appointment, promotion and dismissal of Sub-Deputy Inspectors will be made by the committees, subject to the Director's approval. All correspondence with the district inspecting staff should pass through the district committee. With matters connected with the direction of studies and the examination of results the committees shall have no direct concern. The orders of the Director of Public Instruction on these matters will be accepted as final. Any difference of opinion between the committee and the officers of the Department of Public Instruction will be submitted for the decision of Government. The present orders do not deal with the question of assignment of funds which, we are told, will be separately dealt with. We would have gratefully accepted Sir George Couper's Resolution under notice as an important step towards getting the people into the way of administering their own affairs, if we could have felt assured that the district and municipal committees would be realities and not shams; but the new committees, as we have shown in the preceding article on the subject will be, like the existing ones, *jo hukum* committees, and the powers which have been conferred on them will be exercised by the District Magistrate and his covenanted assistants alone.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE.

MR. GRANT DUFF, the new Governor of Madras, has been taking a deep interest in the improvement of Indian agriculture. There can be no doubt that the diffusion of sound views on the subject of agriculture is of very great and practical importance, as more than three-fourths of the entire population of India depend upon land for the means of subsistence. Mr. James Caird, the highest authority in such matters, has conclusively shewn that the difference between the best and inferior agriculture on the same soil may be more than treble the produce. As Mr. Grant Duff, in one of his recent public speeches, pertinently remarked: "There is much room in some parts of India, and a great deal of room in this Presidency, for an increasing breadth of tillage; but the chief increase must be lateral and not perpendicular, not extensive but intensive. It must be the result, in short, of more intelligent cultivation of the lands already tilled." Speaking of the paddy ordinarily grown in this country, Mr. Benson says:—"The crop is of a low type and produces a poor food; it develops habits of idleness and unthrift in the people from the ease with which it may be grown and consequently the adoption of perfunctory modes of cultivation; it is insanitary in its effects, causing, under the system of the Native cultivator, the presence of large bodies of stagnant water—a fertile source of malarious fever; and, finally, it monopolises water which might be far more usefully employed for irrigating maize or wheat, either of which crops might be grown with a tithe of the water now used for paddy, whilst the food they would produce, would equal or be greater in quantity and far better in quality. What the effects would be of an outbreak of a disease on this crop which might as the potato disease did in Ireland, destroy the greatest food resource of the people, it is difficult to contemplate." This question deserves the attentive and careful consideration of the new Agricultural Department. The following remarkable passage occurs in the Report of the American Department of Agriculture for 1878:—"A contrast on the condition of our people with a portion of the inhabitants of the Great Chinese Empire, where hundreds of thousands have perished miserably because of the failure, in certain sections, of rice crop on which alone they depended for subsistence, enforces most emphatically the wisdom of insisting upon a diversity of agricultural products. The Department of Agriculture has for one of its leading objects the introduc-

tion of all the productions of the earth that can be grown in any part of our country, and to encourage by every means that diversity of production, which is at once the safety and the wealth of the nation." The encouragement of diversity of production should be one of the leading objects of the Indian Agricultural Department. If the Department wants to justify its existence, it must devote its attention to this important subject.

The Government of Madras, unlike that of the North Western Provinces has been working in a right direction in the improvement of Indian agriculture. The agricultural school established at Saidapet has been doing much practical good. "To learn by actual practice how the general maxims common to agriculture every-where,are to be made applicable to the circumstances of Southern India, and then to spread in all directions the knowledge obtained by actual experiment are," as Mr. Grant Duff says, "the two main objects of this institution," and the first of these objects has to a certain extent been fulfilled. Mr. Robertson's Agricultural Handbook is a mine of useful information. His observations on deep cultivation distinguished from deep ploughing, on irrigation in which the frightful waste of water in the paddy fields is pointed out, the importance of drainage as the hand-maid of irrigation and on the rotation of crops suitable to the circumstances of the South Indian peasant, are deserving of careful consideration. Mr. Robertson's book also gives the results of the Saidapet experiment in manures and contains an exhaustive and deeply interesting account of the various crops that have been tried, often with success, on the bad soil of the farm. It stands on the firm basis of carefully observed facts, and as such it cannot fail to be useful. But we think not much is being done to spread in all directions the knowledge acquired by experiment. Mr. Robertson's book can be read only by English-educated men. As the number of such men is very small, the knowledge acquired by experiments at the Saidapet farm is confined to a limited class. It is a hopeful sign that whereas before the famine it was hardly possible to get any persons of education and good social standing to study at Saidapet, there are now a fair number of Brahmin pupils, and most of those who now come for admission are matriculated students of the Bombay and Madras Universities. Educated young men should come forward in larger numbers to join the agricultural school at Saidapet. They should give up their prejudice against the occupation of an agriculturist. We again quote Mr. Grant Duff: "When we speak of the importance and dignity of agriculture the Europeans have an especial right to be heard, for we certainly combine example with precept. In many countries of the west agriculture ranks higher than almost any other profession. In England, there are few of our nobles who are not more or less devoted to it. The leaders who marshalled that terrible host, which rolled in 1870 across the Rhine, were pre-eminently an aristocracy of cultivators. Nor are the attractions of the pursuit less to men of peace. Mr. Hullam only repeated what all know when in one of the stateliest pieces of writing in the language, he spoke of agriculture as the 'classic relaxation of a statesman's years.' In urging on the Natives of India to avail themselves ever more and more of this institution, we take a thoroughly consistent course." We cordially join with Mr. Grant Duff in urging the educated Natives of Southern India to avail themselves of the Saidapet agricultural school. A new and useful career has been opened to them, and if they do not take advantage of the facilities provided by Government, it will be their own fault. Every province in India should, to our thinking, be provided with an agricultural institution like that at Saidapet. Indian agriculture will never be improved unless educated men of the middle and higher classes take to the pursuit. It is high time that these men should learn to strike out new and useful careers for themselves. When in many countries of Europe agriculture ranks higher than almost any other profession, there is no reason why educated natives should entertain an unreasonable prejudice against it.

TWO NATIVE STATES OF BOMBAY.

THERE are two Native States of Bombay, which have lately come under public notice, viz., the State of Kolhapore, and the little principality of Porebunder. The first State has been placed under a Council of Regency. The Resolution of the Bombay Government on the subject thus begins:

The mental disorder of His Highness the Rajah Sevajee of Kolhapur has been certified by a Committee of Medical Officers to afford no hope of his restoration to sanity. It has, therefore, become incumbent on Government to appoint a form of administration for the Kolhapur State, to be continued for such time as the Rajah *dejure* shall be incapable of ruling in person.

Government do not desire to maintain during this interregnum the direct control of Kolhapur affairs which has subsisted, with only a brief interval, since the disturbances of 1844. The temporary administration now to be constituted will conduct public business in accordance with the traditions of the Kolhapur State, and its relations with the British Government will be regulated by the Treaties in force.

The administration of Kolhapur will be carried on in the name of His Highness the Raja, and his style and title will be prefixed to public documents.

The Council of Regency is thus constituted:

The Right Honorable Governor in Council is pleased to nominate Jysing Rao Ghatge, Chief of Kagal to be Regent of Kolhapur. Rao Bahadur Mahadey Wasudy Barve C. I. E., will continue to hold the office of Divan and will be a member of the Council. Khan Saheb Mehrjibhi Kuvarji Tarapurwala will be Chief Judge and member of the Council.

Rao Bahadur Yeshwant Moreshwar Kelkar will be Chief Revenue Officer and member of the Council.

The constitution and functions of the Council of Regency are thus set forth in the Resolution: The affairs of the Kolhapur State will be administered by a Regent, assisted by a Council of three. The members of the Council will be the Divan, the Chief Judge and the Chief Revenue Officer. The Regent in Council will form the Executive Government, and will deliberate, and pass resolutions by vote on questions of public business submitted for orders by heads of departments. All engagements binding on the Rajahs of Kolhapur under the Treaty of 1862 will be binding on the Regent in Council. The appointment and removal of the Regent and the members of his Council will remain vested in Government. A journal of proceedings in Council will be kept in charge of the Divan. The names of the members present at each meeting of Council shall be noted in the journal, and it shall be stated what members voted for and dissented from each resolution. The Journal shall be signed after each meeting of Council by the Regent and the Divan. The Regent will have a casting vote in the Council when the votes are equally divided. If the Regent decides a question under discussion by his casting vote, a member of the Council dissenting from the decision may require that the question shall be referred to the Political Agent under Article 1 of the Treaty of 1862. The Regent will possess the same right of reference, if he is overruled by a majoritity of votes in Council. The State business will be distributed under the heads of General, Judicial and Revenue, and the Divan, Chief Judge and Chief Revenue Officer will respectively conduct the business of these three departments under the control of the Regent in Council to whom they will be directly responsible. Public finance will be in the department of the Divan, who will place annually before the Regent in Council, a financial statement and budget estimate. The accounts and budget, after consideration in Council will be submitted for the approval of Government. Loans shall not be raised on the credit of the Kolhapur State without the previous consent of Government. The Regent in Council will adopt in the first instance the budget estimates approved under the present administration, which shall not be departed from without the sanction of Government. The Judicial system of the Kolhapur State, as now existing, will be maintained by the Regent in Council who will, however, be at liberty to propose, for approval by Government, modificatious in the regulations as to the jurisdictional powers of the Judicial Officers, and as to the right of appeal. The law in the Kolhapur State will be the law as now administered, with such modifications as may be made by the Regent in Council with the approval of Government. The principles of Revenue administration now in force in the Kolhapur State, will be maintained by the Regent in Council. The Survey operations in progress will be carried on to completion. New taxation will not be imposed without the sanction of Government. Alienated revenue will be dealt with strictly according to the rules respecting alienations now established in Kholhapur. Appeals from the Executive Departments will be made to the Regent in Council, and orders will be passed on them by the Regent sitting with at least one member of the Council other than the head of the department against whose order the appeal is preferred.

We congratulate the Bombay Government on their Resolution. It will prove a blessing to the people of Kolhapur. The constitution aud rules of the Council are fairly drawn up. There is only one point on which we differ—it is this that the chiefs of the Judicial and Revenue Departments are made members of the Executive Council. They will practically sit in judgment upon their own proceedings. This ought not to be; the members of the Council ought to have been men unconnected with the Departments. Otherwise we think the people of the Kolhapur State have no reason to be dissatisfied with the arrangements made.

The matter touching the State of Porebunder is small enough. *Native Opinion* of Bombay says:

"It is distressing to see that a little of independent action on the part of a chief even when he exercises such independence under treaty privileges should raise black blood in some of our politicals. The Native states so far as the appointment of Dewans is concerned are divided into two classes—those having a right to appoint their own Karbharis without any reference to the Political Agent and those requiring the sanction of the latter. It appears that the Rana of Porebunder belongs to the former class and as such he was justified, we believe, in making his own choice of the man to serve him. It is said the Kathiawad Political Agent wished to have a man of his own as the Karbhari of Porebunder and his disappointment in the affair has brought the Rana it is said under his displeasure. It is also said that reporting and counter reporting with regard to the affair has been going on for some time, and possibly the Rana may come to be checked for displeasing the representative of the Paramount Power.

We hope all this is not true. It was only the other day Lord Ripon thus spoke at Rajputana:

"I am deeply impressed with the belief, that it is of the greatest importance to India, that the native States of this country should be prospering and well administered. I am firmly convinced that the maintenance of these native States is of no less political importance to the Government of England than it is to the people of those states themselves. (Applause). It will always be the aim of my policy, so long as I fill the office which I occupy, to maintain the integrity and dignity of the native states of India (applause), and to promote to the utmost of my power their prosperity and well-being. But at the same time I am no less impressed with the deep responsibility which rests with the Government of India, with regard to the well-being of the inhabitants of those states. The British rule in this Peninsula has established throughout the length and breadth of the land an uninterrupted and unbroken peace, that is one of the greatest claims which we can put forward to attachment of the chiefs and inhabitants of India. But the very fact that that peace is maintained by the power of the English name throws of itself a great responsibility upon the Government to see that the inhabitants, of the Native States do not suffer from misgovernment or oppression (applause.) And it is undoubtedly a task of no small difficulty and delicacy to reconcile that freedom from all harassing and needless interference which we desire to secure to the native princes and chiefs, with that protection from injustice and oppression, which we are *bound* to afford to the people who dwell in those territories. Now, it seems to me that there is no better mode of effecting this object, and discharging these responsibilities than by encouraging the work that is being done in an institution of this kind, and by promoting among the youth who are hereafter to become princes and nobles in the States of India, that education, and that training, which will

best fit them to discharge the responsibilities, of the important positions to which they will ultimately be called."

And is the attitude of the Political Agent towards the Rana of Porebunder in accordance with the noble spirit of conciliation, which the Viceroy inculcated at Rajputana in December last? The truth is, if the country could be governed according to the wishes of the Queen-Empress, Her Majesty's Minister, or Viceroy, there would be little room for complaint. But unfortunately the subordinate officers hear one thing and do another. We hear now and then complaints of disloyalty against Native Chiefs and their subjects, but we cannot help saying that some of the subordinate officers of Government are the most disloyal creatures under the sun.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

ACCORDING to the London correspondent of the *Times of India* Mr. J. W. Pease was to have three weeks ago moved an address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Opium Trade with China and a debate of considerable importance was anticipated. With reference to the vigorous operations of the Anti-Opium Society, some curious rumours have been current as to the attitude of the Government regarding the motion of Mr. Pease. "If the motion is carried," says one writer of some authority, "Lord Hartington would at once resign. I have reasons to believe that he has expressed himself to that effect. This is, of course, on the assumption that Mr. Pease's resolution, of which the terms are not yet set down, is not less strong than that of last year." Mr. Gladstone has refused to receive a deputation of the Anti-Opium Society, notwithstanding the great pressure put upon him. The memorial of the Society it is stated, is a long and skilfully prepared document; we have not seen it. From the extracts from the petition given in some papers it appears that it begins with a quotation of the memorandum on the consumption of opium in British Burma by the late Chief Commissioner Sir Charles Aitchison, and proceeds to review British relations with China in respect to opium, pointing out "that from the beginning of this century to the present hour the drug has been diligently cultivated in India expressly for the China market, and with such success that the Indian sales have risen from 3,292 Chests in 1802-3 to 105,832 chests in 1879-80; and that this trade was until the treaty of Tientsin, carried on in defiance of the laws of China, but practically under the protection and by means of the coercion of England;" and that "the provisions of the late Chefoo Convention relative to opium have remained unaccepted by this country." In regard to the financial difficulty the memorial argues "that the finances of India have lately exhibited a healthy elasticity, and that there is high authority for believing that the Indian expenditure is capable of great reduction without loss of efficiency." The memorial bears 301 signatures including those of the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, and Dublin, Cardinal Manning, the Duke of Westminister, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Bishops of Durham, Winchester Ripon, Norwich, Gloucester and Bristol, St. Albans, Hereford, Salisbury, Exeter, Carlisle, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh and Hongkong; Lords Ebury, Polwarth, Cavan, and Radstok; the Chairman of the Congregational Union; and Presidents of the Wesleyan Conference and of the Baptist Union; fifty-two Members of Parliament, including Messrs. W. McArthur, J. W. Pease, Saml. Morley, Hugh Mason, R. N. Fowler. and Thomas Burt, Sir E. Fry, the late Sir Robert Lush, Mr. Spurgeon, Sir Jas. Risdon Benett, Dr. B. W. Richardson, and more than a score of other distinguished physicians; seven doctors who have practised in China. Goldwin Smith, A. R. Wallace, Dr. Congreve, Walter Wren, F. W. Newman, Henry Crompton, Sir Authur Cotton, Leone Levi, professor Beasly Thos. Hughes; 36 Mayors and Provosts; 20 China missionaries; and a long array of Chairmen of Chambers of Commerce, of School Boards, Liberal Associations, merchants from the East or having business relations with India and China &c., &c., The memorialists advance these propositions: first, that the dealings of Great Britain with China in respect of the opium trade have in times past been oppressive and unrighteous; secondly, that the policy which our fathers began, we their children are pursuing; and, thirdly, that though we can never undo the irrevocable past, we have yet much we can do to lessen the result of our evil deeds in the future. In regard to the financial part of the question the memorialists remind Mr. Gladstone that the finances of India have lately exhibited a healthy activity; that there is high authority for believing that the Indian expenditure is capable of great reduction without loss of efficiency; and that at the great city meeting the duty of a national contribution from England to India to lessen the inconvenience resulting to its finances from the adoption of the policy advocated was duly recognised; and that petitions to this effect have been signed by 56,000 persons. Mr. Gladstone replied as follows:—"I have had the honour to receive the memorial and copy of resolutions which you, on behalf of the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade, have forwarded to me, and have transmitted them to the India Office for the consideration of the Secretary of State." Lord Hartington writes: "I have received from Mr. Gladstone the important memorandum from the Society for the Supression of the Opium Trade, which you have forwarded to him on the subject. I will, of course, give it my most careful consideration, though I need hardly say that I entirely dissent from many of the statements and conclusions which it contains."

It is time we think that a counter-movement should be set on foot in India. Both Europeans and Natives ought to combine and represent Indian opinion on the subject. Excepting the Missionaries we do not think there is a single section of the Indian community, which do not see the futility of the cry of the Anti-Opium Society. We think such an expression of opinion will greatly strengthen the hands of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India. Major Baring's exposition of the opium policy of Government has exhausted the argument in all its bearings, and has not left the anti-opium party a leg to stand upon. If the Budget-statement be supplemented by an exposition of independent public opinion of India, John Bull will not fail to see that the opposition of the Anti-Opium Society is a mere cry of fanaticism.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE received the following telegram from a correspondent at Sibsagar:

The Assam Association has asked the Chief Commissioner of Assam for a copy of the Assam Land Tenure Bill or to have the Bill published in the *Assam Gazette*. The public hope the Bill may not be passed without allowing them opportunity to offer their opinions on it. At present they are quite in dark as regards its provisions.

THANKS to Sir Ashley Eden the Durga Puja holidays remain intact. In exercise of the power vested in the Lieutenant-Governor by the Negociable Instruments Act His Honor has notified the following list of public holidays for the current year:

The 8th April	...	...	Easter Saturday.
„ 12th April	...	...	Chait Sankranty.
„ 24th April	...	...	The Empress's Birth day
„ 27th April	...	...	Dushahara,
„ 4th September	...	...	Junmostumee.
„ 11th October	...	...	Mahalaya.
„ 18th to 29th October			Doorga Pooja and Lukhee Pooja
„ 10th and 11th November		...	Kalee Pooja.
„ 19th and 20th November		...	Juggodhatry Poojah
„ 26th and 27th December		...	Two days following Christmas day.

Sundays, Good-Friday, Christmasday are public holidays under the Act.

We observe that the two days of Saraswati Puja or Pen and Ink festival have been omitted. This is evidently an oversight, which we trust will be duly rectified. We hope the holiday controversy is now set at rest.

TOMORROW Mr. C. H. Tawney, the distinguished Principal of the Presidency College, leaves for England. If he gets a suitable appointment at home, he may not return to this country. A scholar of the highest attainments he has not perhaps his peer in this land, and his retirement from the education service will be a great loss to it. His usefulness was not confined to the Education Department; he was a source of great help to scholars in solving doubts and giving information, which was not easily accessible, and he used to render this help with the greatest alacrity and cheerfulness. We hope that the bracing climate of his native land will speedily restore his health and strength, and that he will again give us the benefit of his rare intellectual culture and resources.

THE FOLLOWING is the address of the Calcutta Corporation to Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, congratulating her on her recent providential escape from the hands of an assassin:

TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN-EMPRESS OF INDIA.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY, we the members of the Corporation of the Town of Calcutta, humbly approach Your Majesty with an expression of our unfeigned joy at your providential escape from the hands of an assassin.

2. As representatives of the various nationalities that inhabit the metropolis of Your Majesty's British Indian Empire, we have always been animated by a high sense of loyalty to Your Majesty's throne, and at no time has that feeling been more unanimous than now when the devotion which the person of the Sovereign ever inspires among your Eastern subjects is intensified by the conspicuous virtues which have signalised Your Majesty's beneficent and auspicious reign.

3. Happily the message announcing the attempt made upon your revered life, was accompanied by the consoling news that it had failed and that all danger was past. It now remains for your faithful subjects to express their abhorrence of this wicked act of treason, to thank the Almighty for your preservation, and to pray that Your Majesty may long be spared to reign over your loyal and loving subjects in India.

The text of the address has at the request of the Corporation been telegraphed to the Secretary of State by the Lieutenant-Governor.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to record the death of Mr. Vishnu Krishna Chiplunkur of Poona, one of the editors of the *Maharatha*. We have read with painful interest a sketch of his career in that newspaper. He was a vigorous writer in Mahrathi, and greatly enriched that language by his labours. Fired by patriotic zeal he devoted his life to the service of his fatherland. He was in the prime of life, scarcely thirty-three years of age. We sincerely sympathize with Bombay in her affliction.

WE GIVE below the names of the witnesses, whom the Education Commission is examining:

Mr. C. H. Tawney, Father Lafont, Sayid Ahmed Khan Bahadur, C. S. I. Babu Kristodas Pal, Rev. Krishna Mohun Banerji, Hon'ble Amir Ali, Rev. J. D. Bhuttacharji, Rev. J. Robertson, Principal of the Free Church Institution, Rev. J. Hudson of Bangalore, Babu Bolanath Pal, Babu Chundi Charan Bannerjee, Nawab Abdul Latif Khan, Sayid Amir Hossein, Rev. W. Hastie Principal of the General Assembly's Institution. Rev. D Machihan and Rev B. Shri Shadri both of Bombay and J. B. Ashton Principal of the London Missionary College.

The Commission will close its present session in Calcutta with the end of this month. It will meet again in December next. Dr. Hunter, the President, is untiring in his efforts to secure a fair representation of public opinion on the education question through witnesses representing all sections of the community. We hope a full report of the evidence taken will be circulated for expression of public opinion.

THE ENGLISHMAN differs from us in the view we take of the probable effect of the new Stock Notes upon the mass of the population. Our contemporary admits that "the bulk of the money lenders, *viz.*, the village mahajuns" will find it more profitable to lend money on present terms than to invest it in Stock Notes, but he says, "there is still a very large class who will at once appreciate them, the banking and trading community in the larger towns, Government servants, and the well-to-do portion of the urban population generally." And with these classes the Stock Notes will find favour. We do not question this statement. We have already said that clerks and other Government servants, and residents in towns, who have scant opportunities of laying out their small capital to advantage, will readily embrace the opportunity. But the object of Government is not to reach these classes. To them the Savings Banks are open, but as they will now receive interest a quarter per cent more, they will naturally prefer the Stock Notes. The Government of India in its Resolution on the subject says, "it must be premised, and distinctly borne in mind that the masses of the people in the moffussil, and not the monied investing, or speculating classes of the Presidency and other principal towns, are those to whom the scheme is addressed, and whom it is intended to benefit, by fertilising petty savings

and encouraging accumulation." The question is whether the masses, who may have savings, will like to invest them in Stock Notes at 4 per cent. interest, or to lay them out at the country rate of interest ordinarily varying from 12 to 37½ per cent. We believe there can be but one answer to this question, and that in the negative as regards Stock Notes. For years to come we are convinced it will be hopeless to reach the savings of the masses of the population through Stock Notes bearing 4 per cent. interest. With regard to our assertion that the amount of loanable capital in the country is very small our contemporary says, "that it is not only a logical *non sequitur*, but erroneous in fact. Statistics show conclusively that, unless the natives eat the precious metals, there must be very large accumulations of them in the country in some form or other." Yes, a large amount of capital is locked up in precious metals, and we also admit that the natives do not "eat these precious metals." But the question is—will 4 per cent interest tend to unlock the chests of "precious metals." If interest was any consideration with those, who treasure up the precious metals for the ornamentation of the person, surely they would have long ago converted them into cash and employed the money to much better advantage than what the Stock Notes would yield. Human nature is human nature all the world over, and if the European lady is partial to costly dresses, the Indian lady is equally partial to silver and gold ornaments and jewellery, and neither would like to see this pleasing investment give way to the more profitable investment in Stock-Notes. Besides, the gold and silver ornaments are looked upon by the people of this country as a sort of insurance fund, which they draw upon in times of emergency and distress.

WE LATELY noticed the petition of the ryots of Morichardear in the district of Rajshye to the Board of Revenue regarding the settlement of that chur estate. The reader will recollect that the chur is inhabited by about 1200 ryots, that Messrs. Watson and Co., who are in possession of it, ignore the occupancy right of these ryots, that there is consequently dispute between them and the ryots, and that the latter refuse to sow indigo. The ryots have stated their grievances in their petition to the Board, but now a fresh complication has been brought to our notice. The crops of the ryots at the instance of the Watsons on the plea of apprehended breach of the peace have been attached by order of the Magistrate, and have also been cut down. We give below the order of the Joint-Magistrate :

This petition will be put with the counter petition of the Ryots filed yesterday and both petitions with the police reports on the same subject.

Mr. Macdonald who is present on behalf of Messrs. Watson & Co, represents that it is possible that my order dated yesterday may be interpreted as applying to lands other than those which are shown as lands in dispute in the police reports filed with this petition which are founded on the statements of the several parties as to their claims at that time i e the date of the Magistrate's order 3rd December 1881 on Mr Abbot's petition. It must be clearly understood, however, that I will not now entertain any fresh claims to possession on behalf of either party.

It is also represented that if the Reyts are left the *Kalie*, they will make away with it and Mr. Macdonald is willing to advance the Police the expense of cutting the *Kalie* in dispute by a third party (*i e* by coolies to be engaged by the Police for the purpose). It is therefore ordered that where a third party for cutting the *Kalie* cannot be agreed upon the Police are to engage coolies for the purpose taking advances from Mr. Macdonald and keeping accounts.

Further where a third party cannot be agreed upon by the contending parties in whose custody the crop is to be stored the Police must retain the crop in their own custody.

Ordered, after hearing both the contending parties that in cancellation of the previous orders it is directed that the *Kalie* on the lands shown to be in dispute in the Police reports numbered 1 to 4 and signed by me on this date, shall be attached by the Police and cut by and stored with (the crop of each claim being separately stored) the Police or 3rd parties to whom both the contending parties may agree if any such can be found.

The crop being now ripe and there being in my opinion eminent risk of a riot unless immediate action is taken both contending parties are hereby ordered under section 518 of the C. P. Code not to cut the *Kalie* in dispute in the lands above referred to without the permission of the Police.

The effect of this order is that the poor ryots have not only lost the present crops on the field, but will not be able to cultivate their lands. They will be practically without means of subsistence. We are informed that Messrs. Watson and Co. now urge that of the four plots of land in only one has the Government a proprietory right and that the other three they hold of their own right. We do not know whether the plea has been taken with a view to oust Government from its jurisdiction to interfere in the matter. We hear that the Commissioner of the Rajshye Division had recommended the settlement of the Chur with Messrs. Watson and Co., for a long term of years, but that the Lieutenant-Governor has not given his assent to this recommendation. The question of settlement is pending before the Board. In the meantime the ryots are being reduced almost to starvation. If this state of things should continue long, it would be a cruel commentary on the British system of administration.

THE ENGLISHMAN publishes another letter on the forced labour system introduced into Assam from which we give the following extract :

The Mauzadras in the District of Sibsagar were directed to prepare and submit to the Duputy Commissioner lists of the people of the working class in their respective mauzahs to be forced to work by turn as coolies when required for road and other work. This was evidently a golden opportunity given to the Mauzadars, and not one or two of them only made the best of it to enrich themselves. Half the number of ryots were returned as "bal manoo" (gentlemen) by taking a fee in cash or kind per head. That such a fee was readily paid can easily be imagined, and some people even sold their property to pay the fee. Those who could not or would not pay the fee were, of course, no "bal manoo" and were returned as coolies in the list. Many of our tea "teklas" and charcoal burners paid the fee and have become "bal manoo" and will not degrade themselves by following their occupation under us lest they should be classed as coolies. We must find other men to do their work. Several Mauzadars have thus acquired what would not be an undesirable sum ; one is said to have made as much as about Rs. 3,000 and another Rs. 2,500. The rate of fee varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 30 per head in cash and kind.

These are inevitably the incidental and concommitant results of the very objectionable and unlawful system of compulsory and forced labour which some of the district officers of Assam are carrying on to the great annoyance, oppression and inconvenince of the helpless ryots, and which indeed, very strange to hear, the Chief Commissioner of Assam intends to sanction to be widely followed in the Province,

We are not a little surprised that Mr. Elliot, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, who has the welfare of the province at heart, should have sanctioned such an oppressive system. We do hope that he will enquire into the abuses brought into light and put a stop to the system altogether.

THE PIONEER has evidently no backstairs influence with the Government of Lord Ripon, and so it falls foul of it in the following style :

Many people are asking whether it is by accident or design that the Financial Statement has been turned into a general declaration of policy this year. The explanation about opium did not, strictly speaking, require a place in the budget speech, because there were no changes to be elucidated,—merely a foolish agitation to be resisted. And the determination to improve the pay of the subordinate native service,—admirable determination as it is,—is after all a measure of administration rather than of finance. Of course public explanation of these measures was called for emphatically ; but, if we go on crowding more and more on to the shoulders of the Finance Member, he will, in a year or two, have to explain at one burst all that the Government of India is going to do in any department for the next twelve months, including its views about education, army reform, our relations with Native States, foreign policy generally, and the encouragement of aesthetics. The question that naturally arise is, with a Financial Member who can do everything off his own bat, what is the use of a Viceroy or of other Councillors.

The writer ought to remember that every important administrative question in India practically resolves itself into a question of finance, and the Finance Minister has necessarily a voice potential in its solution. Does it imply that the Viceroy abdicates his functions by recognizing the legitimate influence of the Finance Minister ?

HERE is a remarkable case of abuse of power under the Arms Act, which occurred in the district of Jessore. We give below the statement of facts furnished to us by the aggrieved :

I had lately the misfortune to be not on good terms with Babu Jagabundhu Khan, Deputy Magistrate in charge of the Magura Sub-division. In October last, when I was absent in my home in the Dacca District, Inspector Babu Raichurn Ghose, of the Jessore Police Station at Magura, made a search in my house in Magura, with the object of securing a double-barrelled gun which he alleged to have been in my possession without a license. He instituted the search under instructions, I presume, of the Sub-divisional Officer, without however the sanction of the Magistrate of the District, which is indispensable in such cases ; and also in the absence of respectable witnesses which is the correct procedure. It appears that a single barrelled gun was found in my house which was seized by the Inspector, and made the subject of a report against me, although my nephew, a school-boy, assured him that it was left with him by one Mafiz-ud-din, a discharged pound keeper, to be handed over to Bubu Triguna Churn Das, Court Sub-Inspector of Magura, then on leave, who had expressed a desire to purchase the gun. It is necessary to add that the Court Sub-Inspector lived in the same compound in which my house is situated.

On my return to Magura, the Police Sub-Inspector in charge of the Magura Station made a careful enquiry into the case of my having in possession a single-barrelled gun without a License, Inspector Raichurn Ghose having in the meantime been transferred elsewhere. The result of the enquiry was a complete establishment of the statement made by my nephew to the Inspector, during the house search, with reference to the single-barrelled gun found in my house. The Sub-Inspector submitted C. form, exonerating me from any possible connection with the gun found in my house and also holding that no case under the Arms Act could be made out against me, considering the facts and evidence elicited in the enquiry.

But the affair did not end here. The Deputy Magistrate thought it proper to order a criminal prosecution against me, and I was summoned to take my trial under the Arms Act on the 3rd December 1881. Bail to the amount of Rs. 100 and personal recognisance for Rs. 100, was demanded from me, in default of payment of which I was to go to *Hajut*, The Deputy Magistrate kept the case pending the trial for nearly 2½ months, changing the dates of hearing for ten consecutive occasions viz. 3rd December 1881 ; 10th December 1881; 17th December 1881 ; 27th December 1881 ; 31st December 1881 ; 7th January 1882 ; 14th January 1882 ; 21st January 1882; 31st January 1882; 14th February. 1882. Almost on each of these dates, I had to dance attendance at the court from 11 A.M. to 9 P.M. The injury done to my profession as a Medical Practitioner, and to my respectability, which must be the ground-work of my success in life, may be well imagined. I had already applied to the Magistrate of the District to transfer the case to some other court stating fully the reasons for the same. Before granting my request the Magistrate directed the District Superintendent of Police to reinvestgate the case ; which was accordingly done in the presence of Colonel Baker, Deputy Inspector General of Police, who accompanied the District Superintendent to Magura on Inspection tour. After a full enquiry the District Superintendent said in my presence that *there was no foundation for the prosecution* &c. and confirmed the report submitted by the Police Sub-Inspector. In spite of this the prosecution was allowed to go on. I have not been allowed a copy of the District Superintendent's report, though I applied for the same. Under orders of the Magistrate of the district the case was transferred on the 8th January 1832 to the court of Mr. Deare, the officer in charge of Jhenida Sub-Division, who on the 15th February last, dismissed the case and discharged me, remarking *that there was not the slightest foundation for the prosecution* and *that it was founded on malice* as will be seen stated in the latter part of the authenticated copy of the decision of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Jhenida herewith submitted.

BHUBANANDA CHUCKERBUTTY.

The following is the judgment of Mr. Deare, the sub-divisional Magistrate of Jhenida :

EMPRESS *vs* BHUBUNANDA CHUCKERBUTTY.—This case came before me on transfer from the Magurah Court. The accused is a native doctor, residing in Magurah. Except on one ground, the prosecution is inexplicable. There was not the slightest ground for the issue of summons.

It seems the inspector of police received information that defendant had in possession a double-barrelled gun for which he had no license. He went to the defendant's lodgings ; the defendant was absent at his home in the Dacca district. The defendant's nephew, a lad, made over a single-barrelled gun to the inspector belonging to a pound-keeper, named Mafizadin. It appeared on investigation that Mafizadin had offered the gun for sale, and the court sub-inspector who had gone on a short leave of absence, had expressed an intention of becoming the purchaser. The pound-keeper placed the gun in the lodging-house of the defendant, because the court sub-inspector also lived in the same homestead or *bheeta*. These facts were ascertained by the police, the pound-keeper admitting possession of the gun. The police returned the investigation in C form. There was not the slightest ground for supposing that defendant had any knowledge of the gun being in his lodging house, let alone having the gun in his possession. It must be noted that a double-barrelled gun had not been found by the police in defendent's lodgings. On such very insufficient grounds it may be said on no grounds at all, the defendant was summoned to stand a trial under the Arms Act. Defendant in his statement asserts that the prosecution by the Court was malicious, that it was prompted by enmity, defendant and the sub-divisional officer being on unfriendly terms. It appears to me defendant had grounds for the assertion. The defendant has been harassed since December last on a prosecution for which there was not the slightest foundation.

I dismiss the case and discharge the accused.

(Sd.) W. G. DEARE,

February 15, 1882.

Comments on the above are superfluous. We hope this case will attract the notice of Government.

TO PROVIDE against possible opposition the European members of the Senate of the Calcutta University mustered strong on Saturday last to vote for the election of Dr. Jolly as Tagore Professor of Law for the ensuing year. Mr. Muhammad led the opposition by proposing Mr. Amir Ali. Dr. R. Mitra took exception to the subject proposed—"the Hindu Law of Inheritance, Partition and Adoption according to the Smritis"—on the ground of its being a stale subject. There were, he urged, scores of very valuable text-books in the English language, including the works of Colebrook, Strange, Elberling, Mayne, Macnaughten, Buhler, West, Montriou and Shamacharn Sarkar, and thousands over

thousands of decisions by the highest Judges of the land, including the Lords of the Privy Council. The subject, morever, had been discussed nearly half-a-dozen times by former Tagore Professors, and nothing new could be had by threshing that which had been already so often threshed. Nor was there any prospect of Dr. Jolly being able to do any thing which had not been done before. He was not a lawyer by training or profession; he had read nothing of Law literature either in the original or in translation, nor was he familiar with the numerous judgments which settled the modern law in the estimation of our courts. He was besides not a very sound Sanskrit scholar, for he had interpreted the Narada Sanhita very unsatisfactorily and made some verses of it to mean that a Hindu Woman may take four husbands at the same time, when they really meant the very reverse. Dr. Mitra also twitted the Faculty of Law for the use of the qualification "according to the Smritis," which conveyed a false impression to the uninitiated. *Smriti* meant law, and there was no Hindu law which was not Smriti, and either the Faculty knew not this essential element in Hindu law, or had deliberately made a *suggestio falsi*, Mr. Bell replied to Dr. Mitra's remarks at some length. He charged the Dr. with ingratitude for traducing German scholars who had been very kind to him, and urged that he should feel thankful to Dr. Jolly for tracing polyandry among Hindu ladies. Dr. Mitra had himself discovered that his remote ancestors were beef-eaters. Dr. K. M. Bannerjea in a forcible speech exposed the utter hollowness of Mr. Bell's constructions, and complained of the Syndicate having compromised the Senate by anticipating its wishes and inviting Dr. Jolly to become a candidate. The Vice-Chancellor explained the circumstance and took the whole responsibility upon himself. Here Dr. Mittra repudiated the charge of ingratitude. He said he had many friends among German scholars, for whom he cherished the highest respect, but he held that no private personal gratitude should be allowed to have any influence in the disposal of trust funds. He had great respect for the gentleman who had brought the charge against him, and would do any thing that lay in his power to meet his wishes, but were the gentleman to offer himself as a candidate for the command of the Channel Fleet, and the Dr. had the disposal of it, he would be compelled to decline. He denied too that he, the father of a family, would be grateful to one who preached polyandry. Whatever may be the feelings of *Mem Sahibs* in the matter, no husband, whether European or Indian, would tolerate it. The doctrine would perhaps suit some bachelors and widowers of a peculiar turn of mind but no married man would listen to it. The Tagore Law Professorship in the Calcutta University has notoriously become a public scandal, and the Faculty of Law, evidently desirous to introduce a reform, had put themselves in communication with some German scholars for the election of a competent Sanscritist to lecture on Hindu Law. There was nothing objectionable in this move, and if the Faculty had taken the Senate into confidence, and moved with their sanction nobody could have taken any reasonable objection to the proposed course. But as the matter was laid before the Senate it smacked of jobbery. It seemed to be a cut and dry affair and hence the opposition offered to it. Two names were proposed, Mr. Jolly, a German scholar, and Mr. Amir Ali, the well-known Barrister. Mr. Jolly is not much known to fame, and two of our most distinguished orientalists, as stated above, gave it as their deliberate opinion that they did not consider him to be a fit person to be Tagore Law Lecturer. There would have been nothing unfair if the two names had been put to the vote, but while the discussion was going on a bye-play was being enacted—pressure was being put upon the mover, who had proposed Mr. Amir Ali to withdraw his motion, and he did withdraw it, and Mr. Ameer Ali also withdrew his candidature, evidently from a desire not to pit himself against the Bench and the Bar, which were in favour of Mr. Jolly. The second nominee having backed out the field was necessarily left to the first nominee, who had only to walk over and win. What we regret so much is that there should have been in the conduct of the honorable men, who govern the University, any thing connnected with this matter, which was not quite above-board and that the disposal of trust funds should have been so lightly death with. No one can conscientiously say that the next course of lectures will be of any earthly use to a lawyer, or a judge, much less to a student.

The second subject brought up for discussion before the Senate was a scheme to do away with competition in the disposal of the Premchand Roychand Studentship. It was proposed that instead of giving away the Studentship to the candidate who attained the highest number of marks at a public examination to do away with marks, and leave the patronage to examiners at their discretion. The proposal, however, was strongly opposed and ultimately referred to the Faculty of Arts, which had not been for reasons, perhaps not fit to be disclosed, originally consulted as it should have been. If even Mr. Gladstone advocates cloture, why should not the Syndicate long for power to do away with competition, at least in one department to begin with. *Nemo repente fuit turpissimus*, says Juvenal.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "Consumption: its Treatment and Curability," writes:—"The superior efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perceptible improvement, have, after a brief trial of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil." Benjamin Clarke, Esq., M. R. C. S., F. L. S., author of "Notes and Suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes:—"The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme debility, the patient, from the slowness of its action, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumption, may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the remark that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the Pale Oil does." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 25th March, 1882

Dullness continues to be the characteristic feature of our commercial markets and hardly any thing of importance has transpired during the week. Piece-goods continue to find buyers but on alimited scale and chiefly for Greys—at reduced rates. This as other kinds of transactions have been restricted by purchasers demanding larger concessions in prices than sellers could afford to make as duty on most of these goods has been paid. This combining with a very stringent money market rendered transactions difficult. It remains now to be seen how the abolition of cotton duty well tend to improve the Piece-goods trade.

Exports.—Nothing of importance has transpired in this market except some small transactions in Lin and Rape seeds for delivery in April at Rs. 3-11-6 to 3-12 for the former and 3-6 for the latter.

MONETARY.

Since the last few days our money market has been more stringent than before, rendering discount operation both at the Banks and in the open market very difficult. This is attributed to heavy withdrawals amounting to 41 lacs from the Bank of Bengal, 9 per cent. continues to be the minimum rate, whilst by the latest telegram we learn it is only 3 per cent. at the Bank of England and 2½ in the open market, unless our money market is relieved soon of this difficulty serious consequences may arise.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

In consequence of extreme tightness for money, the Securities found very few buyers and prices gradually drooped to as follows:

4 per cent lol—9
4½ ,, lol—lo

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

In Jute industries and Tea stocks there has been a fair amount of business done even at enhanced rates.

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ERRATUM.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*March* 22, 1882.

GENERAL.—The services of Mr. W. Macpherson, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, 24-Pergunnahs, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Mr. G. N. Barlow, C.S.I. commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division, is allowed leave for six months under section 60, chapter V of the civil Leave code, with effect from the 24th April next, or such subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, C. S. I., Magistrate and collector, Patna on leave, is appointed to act as commissfoner of the Bhaghulpore Division during the absence, on leave, of Mr. G. N. Barlow, C. S. I., or until further orders.

The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General and Revenue Departments, on deputation, is appointed to act as a Member of the Board of Revenue, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. R. L. Mangles, v.c., or until further orders.

Moulvi Syed Mahomed Soban Hyder, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and deputy Collector, Chittagong, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-three days, under section 71, chapter V of the civil Leave Code.

Moulvi Najimuddeen Ahmed, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs, is transferred to Purneah.

Mr. C. G. M. Shircore, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is allowed leave for three months, under section 129, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the orders of the 31st January last.

Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for two months, under section 127, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under the orders of the 24th January last.

Mr. E. J. Barton, Magistrate and Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for three months, under section 71, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 24th proximo or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Sitikant Ghose, Special Deputy Collector, Bankoora, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870, for the purpose of acquiring the land required for the road from Sudpore to Khatra in that district.

Mr. H. P. Peterson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jehanabad, Gya, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-seven days, under section 71, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th April next.

Mr. A. D'B. Gomess, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy collector, Nattore, Rajshahye, on leave, is transferred to Gya, and is appointed to have charge of the Jehanabad Division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. P. Peterson, or until further orders.

Mr. C. P. Caspersz, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Raneegunge Division of the Burdwan District, is allowed leave for three months, under section 71, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 19th April, 1881.

Mr. H. J. H. Fasson, Assistant Settlement Officer, Chittagong, is allowed furlough for one year and six months under section 49, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 10th proximo.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Officiating Commissioner of Sunderbuns, is appointed to act as Assistant Settlement Officer to conduct the Settlement of the Noabad talooks in Chittagong, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. J. H. Fasson or until further orders.

Advertisements.

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